

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 331  
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Llew Jones

For the Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee

Prepared by Padraic McCracken  
February 23, 2015 (1:18pm)

1. Title, page 1, line 4.

**Following:** "TO"

**Insert:** "TEMPORARILY"

2. Title, page 1, line 5 through line 6.

**Strike:** "A" on line 5 through "LICENSE" on line 6

**Insert:** "SATISFYING A TRADITIONAL PATHWAY TO LICENSURE; ALIGNING  
STATE LAW WITH FLEXIBLE LICENSING RULES OF THE BOARD OF  
PUBLIC EDUCATION; PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO  
LICENSURE CONSISTENT WITH FLEXIBILITY UNDER RULES OF THE  
BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION"

3. Title, page 1, line 6.

**Strike:** "SECTION"

**Insert:** "SECTIONS"

**Following:** "20-4-101"

**Insert:** ", 20-4-104, 20-4-106, AND 20-4-108"

4. Page 1, line 13.

**Strike:** "(a)"

5. Page 1, line 17.

**Strike:** "(1)(b)"

**Insert:** "(2)"

6. Page 1, line 19.

**Following:** "state"

**Insert:** "pursuant to 20-4-111"

7. Page 1, line 20 through line 29.

**Strike:** subsections (b) and (c) in their entirety

8. Page 1, line 30.

**Following:** "(2)"

**Insert:** "(a)"

9. Page 2, line 2.

**Strike:** "(3)"

**Insert:** "(b)"

10. Page 2, line 7.

**Strike:** "(4)"

11. Page 2.

**Following:** line 10

**Insert:** "(c) The traditional pathways to certification

represented by the class 1, class 2, and class 3  
designations under 20-4-106 do not apply to:

(i) a class 5 alternative certificate, which is valid for a  
term not to exceed 5 years, provided that the applicant satisfies  
the requirements of 20-4-106(1)(e);

(ii) a class 7 specialist certificate, provided that the  
applicant satisfies the requirements of 20-4-101(1)(g);

(iii) a class 8 certificate, provided that the applicant  
satisfies the requirements of 20-4-101(1)(h); or

(iv) an internship incorporating on-the-job training and a  
program design under which:

(A) the intern will complete the requirements for the  
appropriate endorsement within 3 years;

(B) the school district will provide local supervision and  
support of the intern; and

(C) the accredited educator preparation program will  
approve the coursework and provide support and periodic  
supervision."

12. Page 2, line 11.

**Insert:** "Section 2. Section 20-4-104, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-4-104. **Qualifications.** (1) A person may be certified as  
a teacher when the person satisfies the following qualifications.  
The person:

(a) is 18 years of age or older;

(b) is of good moral and professional character;

(c) has completed the teacher education program of a unit  
of the Montana university system or an essentially equivalent  
program at an accredited institution of equal rank and standing  
as that of any unit of the Montana university system, and the  
training is evidenced by at least a bachelor's degree and a  
certification of the completion of the teacher education program,  
except as provided for in 20-4-106~~(1)(d)~~; and

(d) has subscribed to the following oath or affirmation  
before an officer authorized by law to administer oaths:

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support The  
Constitution of the United States of America and The Constitution  
of the State of Montana."

(2) Any person may be certified as a specialist when the  
person satisfies the requirements of subsections (1)(a) and  
(1)(b) and the requirement for a specialist certificate provided  
in 20-4-106(2)."

{ Internal References to 20-4-104:

20-4-201 ok }

**Insert: "Section 3.** Section 20-4-106, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-4-106. Classifications of teacher and specialist certificates.** (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall issue teacher certificates and the board of public education shall adopt teacher certification policies on the basis of the following classifications of teacher certificates:

(a) The class 1 professional certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who has completed a teacher education program that includes a bachelor's degree and a minimum of 1 year of study beyond the degree in a unit of the Montana university system or an equivalent institution. The professional certificate may be endorsed for elementary instruction, for secondary instruction, or both, and for specified subject fields on the basis of the applicant's academic and professional training and according to the board of public education policy for teacher certification endorsement.

(b) The class 2 standard certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who has completed a 4-year teacher education program and who has been awarded a bachelor's degree by a unit of the Montana university system or an equivalent institution. The standard certificate may be endorsed for elementary instruction, for secondary instruction, or both, and for specified subject fields on the basis of the applicant's academic and professional training and according to the board of public education policy for teacher certification endorsement.

(c) The class 3 administrative and supervisory certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who is eligible for a teacher certificate endorsed for teaching in the school or schools in which the applicant would be an administrator or would supervise. The applicant must also possess the training and experience required by the policies of the board of public education for an endorsement as superintendent, principal, or supervisor.

(d) The class 4 vocational, recreational, or adult education certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who has the qualifications of training and experience required by the United States office of education or the qualifications required by the special needs of the several vocational, recreational, or adult education fields and who can qualify under the policy of the board of public education for the issuance of this classification of teacher certification.

(e) The class 5 ~~provisional~~ alternative certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who can provide satisfactory evidence of the intent to qualify in the future for a class 1 or a class 2 certificate and who has completed a 4-year college program or its equivalent and holds a bachelor's degree from a unit of the Montana university system or its equivalent. The ~~provisional~~ alternative certificate may be endorsed for elementary instruction, for secondary instruction, or both, and for special subject fields on the basis of the applicant's academic and professional training and according to the board of

public education policy for teacher or specialist certification endorsement.

(f) The class 6 specialist certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant meeting the requirements of the board of public education for a school psychologist or school counselor.

(g) The class 7 specialist certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant based upon the verification by the American Indian tribe for which the language and culture certification is desired that the individual has met tribal standards for competency and fluency as a requisite for teaching that language and culture.

(h) The class 8 certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who is a faculty member of a regionally accredited postsecondary institution for the exclusive purpose of delivery of dual credit courses that fall within an endorsable major or minor, or the equivalent, held by the faculty member when teaching dual credit courses within the role and scope of their duties assigned by the employing postsecondary institution.

(2) The superintendent of public instruction shall issue specialist certificates, and the board of public education shall adopt specialist certification policies. The specialist certificate may be issued to an otherwise qualified applicant who has the training, experience, and license required under the standards of the board of public education for the certification of a profession other than the teaching profession.

(3) For purposes of evaluating the qualifications of applicants for either teacher or specialist certificates, a year means the instructional period consisting of three quarters or two semesters or other terms that are recognized as an academic year by any unit of the Montana university system or equivalent institution."

{ Internal References to 20-4-106:

2-15-1010 ok	2-15-1522 ok	19-20-732 ok	20-3-201 ok
20-4-101 ok	20-4-101 ok	20-4-102 ok	20-4-104 a
20-4-104 ok	20-4-107 ok	20-4-107 ok	20-4-502 ok
20-9-327 ok}"			

**Insert: "Section 4.** Section 20-4-108, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-4-108. Term of teacher and specialist certificates -- renewal.** (1) A teacher or specialist certificate issued by the superintendent of public instruction must bear the dates of issue and validity and is valid for a term of 5 school fiscal years, except that a class 5 ~~provisional~~ alternative certificate is valid for the number of years, up to a maximum of 5 years, provided by the policies of the board of public education. The period of validity for any certificate begins on July 1 immediately preceding the date of issue, except that a teacher or specialist who applies for certification after January 1 may, upon request, have the period of validity of the certificate begin on July 1 following the date of application.

(2) Teacher and specialist certificates must be renewed for similar periods of time on the basis of the board of public education policies for teacher and specialist certification renewal."

{Internal References to 20-4-108: None.}"

**Renumber:** subsequent section

- END -